

REMARKS

Regarding the status of the present application, Claims 1-5 are pending in this application. Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by US Patent No. 3,623,105 issued to Kamen et al. The Examiner's position is that "Kamen show in Fig. 4 a signal controlled laser oscillator 42, a signal controlled microwave oscillator 46, and a single sideband mixer 44."

The Examiner's rejection is not understood. The invention recited in Claim 1 calls for "a signal controlled laser oscillator." The Examiner's position is that the "oscillator 42" disclosed in the Kamen et al. patent is "a signal controlled laser oscillator 42." This position is clearly in error. The Kamen et al. patent expressly states in the paragraph at column 4, lines 34-51 that oscillator 42 is a "voltage-controlled oscillator 42."

It is respectfully submitted that a voltage-controlled oscillator as discussed in the Kamen et al. patent is not a "signal controlled laser oscillator" as is recited in Claim 1. In fact, the terms "laser" or "optical" are not used in the Kamen et al. patent. It is respectfully submitted that the voltage control oscillator 42 is not a signal controlled laser oscillator, it is an RF device.

Also, as has been argued previously, it is respectfully submitted that the high-frequency carrier source 46 is not a signal controlled microwave oscillator as is used in the present invention. As is clearly shown in Fig. 4, the carrier source 46 is not controlled by any signal input. In the present invention, the signal controlled microwave oscillator is controlled by a frequency control signal.

Furthermore, the mixer 46 of the Kamen et al. system generates an output that is the sum and difference of its two input signals ($f_e + f_o \pm \Delta f$). This is not the case with the present invention. In the present invention, the single sideband mixer generates a signal controlled optical frequency signal. This optical frequency signal has a lower sideband at frequency f_0 and an upper sideband at frequency $f_0 + 2xf_m$.

Consequently, it is respectfully submitted that the Kamen et al. patent does not disclose or suggest "a signal controlled laser oscillator", or "a signal controlled laser oscillator that ... outputs an optical frequency signal", or "a signal controlled microwave oscillator that receives a frequency control input signal and outputs a microwave frequency signal, f_m ", or "a single sideband mixer that processes the signal output by the laser oscillator and microwave oscillator to output a signal controlled optical frequency signal", as is recited in Claim 1.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the invention recited in Claim 1 is not disclosed or suggested by the Kamen et al. patent,. Accordingly, withdrawal of the Examiner's rejection and allowance of Claim 1 are respectfully requested.

Dependent Claims 2 and 3 are considered patentable based upon the allowability of Claim 1 a4. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the invention recited in Claims 2 and 3

are not disclosed or suggested by the Kamen et al. patent,. Accordingly, withdrawal of the Examiner's rejection and allowance of Claims 2, and 3 are respectfully requested.

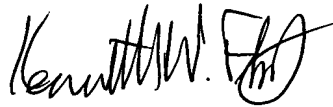
The Examiner indicated that Claims 2 and 3 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The finding of allowable subject matter in this application is appreciated. However, Claims 2 and 3 have not been placed in independent form at this time pending the Examiner's consideration of the above arguments regarding the patentability of Claim 1.

The Examiner also indicated that Claims 4 and 5 were allowed. The finding of allowable subject matter in this application is appreciated.

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure to the extent indicated by the Examiner.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that all pending Claims are allowable over the art of record and that the present application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of this application are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kenneth W. Float", with a stylized flourish at the end.

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